

# Delaware Bicycle Council August 6, 2003 DelDOT Administration Building Meeting Minutes

# **Members Present**

Don Carbaugh, Chair and New Castle County Representative Danna Levy, Council on Greenways & Trails Representative Laura Madara, DNREC Representative Judi Jeffers, At-Large Representative Amy Wilburn, At-large Representative

# **DelDOT Support Staff Present**

Joseph Cantalupo, Assistant Director, Division of Planning Fritz Schranck, Deputy Attorney General Wendy Bernard, Administrative Assistant

### Members Absent

Fred Breukelman, Dept. of Public Health Representative Timothy Willard, Sussex County Representative Tim Plemmons, At-large Representative Janet Ray, Dept. of Education Representative Lisa Moore, Office of Highway Safety Representative George Heberling, DE State Police Representative Paul Stevenson, NCC Representative

#### Guests

Calvin Weber, DelDOT Bridge Design Tom Felice, Civil Engineer, Road Design

#### The meeting was called to order at 5:13 p.m.

### I. Welcome and Introductions

### Introduction of Guests

Don introduced the guests which were Tom Felice, who was working on the striping of Marsh Road and wanted to get the Council's input, and Calvin Weber, who was soon to be a Council member.

#### Council Membership Update

Besides Calvin's impending appointment, Don reviewed the Council membership status with the group. Ali Mirzakhalili had been submitted to the Governor's office as a Kent County representative which leave the only real vacant seat as the Council on Transportation seat.

Don did mention that Paul Stevenson's term is up and he's thinking about whether or not to seek re-appointment due to personal scheduling conflicts. Judi J. wondered if anyone else from the White Clay Bicycling Club would be interested if Paul does decide not to seek reappointment. Don wasn't sure, but said that would be a good place to start looking.

## II. Guest Speaker & Discussion

Don introduced Tom Felice, who works at DelDOT, to the Council. Tom was there to discuss the Marsh Road re-surfacing project that he was working on. The project runs from Naamans Road to Branmar Plaza and will include re-striping. Since that area has a lot of bicycle traffic, Tom wanted to get the Council's input. He wanted to make it clear that this was just a resurfacing project and doesn't including widening the road at all. The project should start in about 3 weeks.

Tom had a set of plans which depicted where the striping would go and went through them page by page to get input. Marsh Road is heavily traveled North/South route for cyclists. Tom spoke of possible signs to be posted which say "Right lane merge with cyclists."

Don C. asked about the actual material used to stripe the lanes and wondered if it was slippery when wet. Tom said he would look into whether or not it's slippery when wet, but the state uses a 4" epoxy as the standard material.

Joe C had a question on sheet 4 on whether or not it was wide enough to stripe a 3 ft. through lane for cyclists, eliminating the shoulder for the bike lane. Tom said he really wouldn't want to cut down on the turn lane, but if there was extra room, he would look into it. Calvin W. wondered if there isn't enough width, would you really want that type of a situation. He was going to check the AASHTO manual for their recommendation.

On sheet 5, Tom said that for driveways the striping would just stop and then restart, instead of tapering down. Sheet 6 had the same situation. Don C pointed out that there was some new construction that was not depicted in the plans such as new housing developments and facilities. Tom said that he would take a look at some of those instances.

Tom also stated that even though some of the situations were not ideal for cyclists, such as lane width, with the new, brighter striping and more signage, motorists would be more aware of the cyclists.

Don liked the new signs, some of which were signs that show the cyclists what direction to cycle in and 'Begin right turn yield to cyclists'

The Council went through the rest of the plan with similar comments. Tom, Don C, and people from the Statewide & Regional Planning section of DelDOT decided to meet at the site to review some of the discrepancies and to see what could be done.

#### III. Old Business

Website: was updated with information on the Newark receiving an honorable mention from the League of American Bicyclists for being a "Bicycle Friendly City."

Newsletter: Don C thought it was time to get started on the next one. He thought that October would be a good time for the next one. Joe C. said there was money in the budget for one in October and two more after that. Amy W. suggested that the newsletter contain a new projects section and everyone thought that would be a good idea.

Transportation Enhancements: There was legislation proposed to reauthorize TE funds to make it all for transportation projects.

Indian River Inlet: Calvin W. who's working on the project has narrowed down the options regarding the long deceleration/acceleration lanes. They have decided to have the bicycle lane to the right of the turn lane and not the travel lane. They are also thinking of adding 5ft of hot mix to the right of the lane for the recreational cyclists. The recreational cyclists will not be on the southbound side. Don asked that when the stripping plans are being finalized, if the DBC could take another look at them. Calvin said they will have 30% of the plan done by the end of September so the October meeting will be a good time to go over them. Amy W. suggested having a trail sign for tourists and Laura thought that was a good idea too.

Pedals for Progress: Joe C asked the Council was OK with having a notice for the event posted on the DBC website, they said it was. There were press releases and a lot of publicity for the event so hopefully there will be a good turnout. Now Joe was wondering if anyone would be interested in helping to staff the event to let him know. Amy W. said her and her family would help and Don C and Dane L. said they would see if they could.

DelDOT Updates: Joe brought brochures for the Amish Bike Tour that his section was helping with. He also said the Statewide Bicycle and Statewide Pedestrian Plans were getting ready to be worked on. He has decided to keep them separate and was starting fresh, not picking up from the old work that was previously done. Joe said the consultants working on the plans were Whitman, Requardt and Associates. And the Brandywine 100 project was getting ready to be sent to Project Development by the end of the month with 3 roads being nominated. His section was now starting work on the Shipley Road project.

Sept 2002 Letter to Sec. Hayward: Don had not received a response to that yet and asked if it would help to have the bike network list of roads shortened. Part of the letter was to have the shoulders swept more regularly and Secretary Hayward had mentioned that there were 7 new shoulder sweepers, but Don hadn't noticed much difference yet. Joe said he would look into it.

HB 190: the Warren Pritchett Bill was passed. This bill gives the Attorney General more options for penalties involving accidents with motorists and cyclists.

### IV. "Task" Updates

Safe Routes to School: Joe said he is working on the committee. Since quite a few State agency representatives also serve on the DBC, Joe asked if the Council thought it was too many people from the DBC and asked for any suggestions for committee members. Representative Robert Valihura and Senator Sokola were the Assembly's committee members.

Effective Cycling: John Bear and Don C. taught a course that was attended by 5 DelDOT personnel and members of the Dover city police department. Dana asked if

they were open to the public. Joe and Laura suggested that the new dates be posted on the website and put in the newsletter. Don asked if Joe could put together a group for a fall course and Joe thought he could.

# V. New Business Nothing to report

# VI. Committee Reports

Don informed the Council that the White Clay Bike Club had received a grant for safety and they will be ordering 1,150 of the Medical Information Carriers for bicycle helmets and Don asked if the DBC would like to help distribute them.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.